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## **Reading Food Pantry**

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The current euphemism for hunger is "food insecurity". It still means not knowing where your next meal is coming from or if you will have enough to feed your kids.

Reading's response to the issue is the food pantry. Since the 1980's the pantry has been housed in the Old South Methodist Church, sponsored by the Reading Clergy Association, staff by volunteers and stocked by the monetary and nonperishable food donations of townspeople. It is truly us taking care of ours.

Approximately 100 hundred households are served by the pantry. Folks come twice a month either on Monday from 7:00-800pm or Fridays from 10:30-11:30am.

There is ongoing need for non-perishable food, paper products, dry pet food, toiletries and cleaning supplies. The greatest need right now is financial. Money is needed to fund purchases at the Greater Boston Food Bank and the distribution of \$15.00 and \$30.00 gift cards from Market Basket and Stop and Shop. These are used for non-edible necessities not covered by Food Stamps.

Donations may be brought to the front door of Old South weekdays between 9:00 - 2:00. Checks made out to Reading Food Pantry may be mailed to 6 Salem Street Reading MA 01867. Boxes for grocery donations are available at Stop and Shop and Market Basket. Assistance is available for groups interested in special projects to benefit the Pantry. Checkout the website at <a href="https://www.facebook.com/RFP">www.facebook.com/RFP</a>

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